

LBJ LIBRARY  
Mandatory Review  
Case # NLJ 98-525  
Document # 29

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable

WBR - FY1 Guatemala  
• ROUTINE  
IN 88333  
29

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SDO ONE CRS  
DDI EXO FBI SECRET SERVICE (PID) OER FBIS DCS IRS AID USIA

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

~~SECRET~~

100440 Z

CITE

DIST 10 SEPTEMBER 1968

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

EO 12958 3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

DOI:

SUBJECT:

POSSIBLE IDENTIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE REBEL  
ARMED FORCES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ASSASSINATION  
OF AMBASSADOR JOHN GORDON MEIN

BOWDLER  
BUDGET  
DAVIS  
FRIED  
GINSBURG  
HAMILTON  
JESSUP  
JOHNSON  
JORDEN  
KEENE  
LEONARD  
SAUNDERS  
TAYLOR

ACQ:

SOURCE:

EO 12958 3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs  
(S)

EO 12958  
3.4(h)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

1. AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL POLICE CAPTURED  
JULIO CESAR ORTIZ, WHO WAS SEEN TEARING THE REWARD POSTERS FOR THE  
CAPTURE OF THE ASSASSINS OF AMBASSADOR JOHN GORDON MEIN FROM THE  
WALLS IN ZONE 1, GUATEMALA CITY. BEFORE HE WAS APPREHENDED, ORTIZ  
SHOT AND KILLED A NATIONAL POLICEMAN.

2. DURING HIS INTERROGATION BY OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL POLICE,

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: SEP 2001

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

~~SECRET~~

IN 88333

PAGE2 OF 3 PAGES

~~SECRET~~ ~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

(classification)

(dissem controls)

ORTIZ ADMITTED TO BEING A MEMBER OF THE REBEL ARMED FORCES (FAR, CUBAN-ORIENTED INSURGENCY MOVEMENT) AND TO PARTICIPATING IN THE ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR MEIN ON 28 AUGUST. HE SAID THAT HIS TASK IN THE ASSASSINATION WAS TO WATCH FOR THE APPEARANCE OF POLICE CARS DURING THE EPISODE, AND FOR THIS REASON HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO MOUNT A FOOT SURVEILLANCE ON LA REFORMA AVENUE IN THE AREA WHERE THE AMBASSADOR WAS TO BE INTERCEPTED. HE ADDED THAT THE INTENTION OF THE FAR WAS TO ABDUCT THE AMBASSADOR AND THEN EXCHANGE HIM FOR CARLOS FRANCISCO ORDONEZ MONTEAGUDO, AKA CAMILO SANCHEZ, LEADER OF THE FAR WHO WAS CAPTURED ON 24 AUGUST 1968.

3. ORTIZ IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS PARTICIPATING IN THE AMBASSADOR'S ASSASSINATION: FRANCISCO ABRAHAM SOTO DE LA ROSA, AKA "ARMANDO;" PERCY AMILCAR JACOBS DE LEON, AKA "RAMIRO;" JULIO RUBEN LANDA CASTANEDA, AKA "RODRIGO;" "JAIME," ALSO CALLED "SONRISAS;" "FREDY;" "IVAN;" "BENADRIL;" "EL SECO;" AND TWO OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHOM HE COULD NOT IDENTIFY. ORTIZ SAID THAT "JAMIE" WAS THE PERSON WHO SHOT THE AMBASSADOR. EXCEPT FOR HIMSELF, JACOBS, AND "EL SECO," WHO WERE ON FOOT, ORTIZ SAID THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE CITED PERSONS ARRIVED IN THE TWO VEHICLES USED DURING THE ASSASSINATION. HE IDENTIFIED THE TWO VEHICLES AS A RED

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ NO FOREIGN DISSEM

(classification)

(dissem controls)

TOYOTA AND A GREEN CHEVROLET CHEVELLE. ORTIZ ALSO SAID THAT JACOBS AND "EL SECO" COMMANDEERED A TAXICAB AFTER THE ASSASSINATION IN ORDER TO ESCAPE FROM THE AREA.

4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT ADOLFO MENDIZABAL CHAN, A FAR MEMBER WHO WAS A THIRD YEAR STUDENT IN THE FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AT SAN CARLOS UNIVERSITY, USED THE PSEUDONYM OF "JAIME" AND "JUAN". [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT ONE "ARMANDO" WAS CHIEF OF THE INFORMATION SECTION OF THE FAR. JACOBS AND LANDA ARE WELL-KNOWN FAR LEADERS. THE PSEUDONYM OF "FREDY" HAS BEEN REPORTED TO BE USED BY JOSE ALFREDO ALDANA PAIZ AND BY HUMBERTO PINEDA ALDANA. "IVAN" WAS REPORTED BY A MEMBER OF THE FAR [REDACTED] TO BE ANOTHER PSEUDONYM USED BY "JUAN", CHIEF OF FAR FINANCES. [REDACTED] COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE TRUE NAME OF THIS INDIVIDUAL. THE OTHER PSEUDONYMS LISTED CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED.)

EO 12958  
3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

EO 12958  
3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

5. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, AIR, CINCSO, CINCLANT. [REDACTED]

~~SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

~~SECRET~~